

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph spanning pages 3 and 4 as follows:

Currently, the predominant usage of messaging services on mobile networks is for person-to-person text messaging, which in the case of GSM networks is supported by the Short Message Service (SMS). SMS defines signalling messages within the Mobile Application Protocol (MAP) for transferring the Short Message in Mobile Originated (MO) mode between the Mobile Handset and the Short Message Service Centre (SMSC), and in Mobile Terminated (MT) mode between the Short Message Service Centre (SMSC) and the Mobile Handset. Comparable messaging technologies exist for other mobile network architectures, and next generation messaging systems for GSM (Enhanced Messaging Services EMS, and Multimedia Messaging Services MMS) are being introduced, and collectively these are referred to as text messaging services. As those skilled in the art will readily appreciate, the references herein to mobile originated (MO), mobile originated format, mobile terminated, and mobile terminated format have their accepted meanings according to the generally recognized technical specifications for mobile telecommunication services. Accordingly, an MO message is an originating message that has not previously passed through an SMSC providing a store-and-forward function for the telecommunications network whereas an MT message is an MO message that has been converted by the SMSC to a mobile terminated format.